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HISTORY
OF
THE GEORGE L. ALLEN FAMILY
AND THEIR DESCENDENTS
1745 - 1960

Joe D. Allen 31

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Dallas, Texas

1919014

WHY SHOULD PEOPLE INTEREST THEMSELVES IN ASSEMBLING
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TASK, COSTLY AT TIMES AND WITHOUT HOPE OF REMUNERATION.
PERHAPS A COMPREHENSIVE ANSWER WOULD REQUIRE A PHILO-
SOPHICAL DISSERTATION OF AN EMERSON OR A BACON.

Allen, Joe D
History of George L. Allen
Family

Dallas Library

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MAY LOOK BACK INTO THE PAST AND SEE HOW HIS ANCESTORS
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BECAUSE THEY DEMONSTRATED TRUE, UNASSUMING AMERICANISM
INDEPENDENTLY VENTURESOME, BOLDLY INDIVIDUALISTIC, AND
ALWAYS CONSCIOUS OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO FAMILY
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THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN THIS HISTORY IS NOT INFALLIBLE.
IT IS SIMPLY THE BEST THAT COULD BE DEDUCTED FROM THE
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TODAY FOR US TO TURN BACK THE PAGES OF HISTORY SEVERAL HUNDRED YEARS AND TO REALIZE THAT IN THAT DAY PHONICS WAS UNHEARD OF AND THERE WAS NOT A SET PATTERN FOR SPELLING. FURTHERMORE, THERE WAS NO GENERAL PUBLIC EDUCATION AND ON THE FRONTIER MANY DID NOT HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF AN EDUCATION. SINCE THEY COULD NOT WRITE OR SPELL THEIR OWN NAMES IT WAS DONE FOR THEM BY THE CLERKS OF THE CHURCH AND STATE IN WHICH EVER WAY IT SOUNDED TO THEM. EVEN IN FAMILIES WHERE MOST COULD WRITE THEIR OWN NAMES WE FIND THE NAMES SPELLED IN AN AMAZINGLY DIFFERENT NUMBER OF WAYS.

THE INFORMATION FOR THIS COMMENTARY WAS TAKEN LARGELY FROM THE GENEALOGY DEPARTMENT OF THE FORT WORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY, WHICH HAS PERHAPS THE MOST COMPLETE GENEALOGY DEPARTMENT OF ANY PUBLIC LIBRARY IN THE STATE. THE MICROFILMS OF THE FEDERAL CENSUS BUREAU WAS RELIED UPON HEAVILY TO VERIFY THE VARIOUS DATES GIVEN. RECORDS OF ALL TYPES HAD TO BE GONE INTO, INCLUDING MARRIAGE LICENSES, LAND GRANTS, COURT HOUSE RECORDS AND THE THOUSANDS OF TOMBSTONE INSCRIPTIONS TAKEN FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY. OLD FAMILY BIBLES ALWAYS CONTAIN A STORE HOUSE OF FAMILY HISTORY, NOT ONLY THAT OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS, BUT COMMENTS AS TO WHAT MEMBER

OF THE FAMILY THE CHILD FAVORED. MANY TIMES THE RECORDER OF THIS VITAL INFORMATION WOULD COMMENT UPON THE CONDITION OF THE WEATHER DURING THE TIME OF BIRTH. THIS WAS PERHAPS DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE PEOPLE BELIEVED THAT THERE WERE CERTAIN ASPECTS OF NATURE THAT WAS AN OMEN FOR THE FUTURE OF THE CHILD. THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE QUOTATIONS TAKEN FROM FAMILY BIBLES ILLUSTRATING THIS FACT:

"SUSAN WAS BORN AT 4:30 P.M. DURING A SEVERE THUNDER-STORM;" "OUR BELOVED SON JOHN WAS BORN AT 10:23 A.M. DURING A SLEET STORM", OR "OUR DAUGHTER MARY WAS BORN AT 8:30 IN THE EVENING JUST AFTER THE ECLIPSE OF THE MOON" OR ANOTHER "OUR FIRST BORN SON STRONGLY RESEMBLES HIS GRANDFATHER ON HIS MOTHER'S SIDE." WHAT EVER THE REASON, THEY DID NOT HESITATE TO ADD ANY THING THAT CAME TO THEIR MIND.

IN GOING OVER THESE MUSTY OLD RECORDS OF LIFE AND DEATH, ONE IS OFTEN REMINDED OF SEVERAL SENTENCES FROM GRAY'S ELEGY. "THE BOOST OF HERALDY, THE POMP OF POWER, AND ALL THAT BEAUTY AND ALL THAT WEALTH E'ER GAVE AWAITS THE INEVITABLE HOUR. THE PATHS OF GLORY LEAD BUT TO THE GRAVE." OR ANOTHER, "FULL MANY A FLOWER IS BORN TO BLUSH UNSEEN AND WASTE ITS SWEETNESS ON THE DESERT AIR."

ORIGIN OF THE ALLEN NAME

THIS NAME IN SCOTLAND COMES FROM THE OLD GAELIC NAME AILENE, WHICH MEANS ALL ROCK OR HARD. IT WAS ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR NAMES WHEN SURNAMES WERE BECOMING HEREDITARY. IT IS SAID TO HAVE COME INTO ENGLAND WITH ALAN FERGEANT, COUNT OF BRITTANY, A CHAMPION OF WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR, AND THE FIRST EARL OF RICHMOND. IT SOON BECAME COMMON TO NORTHERN ENGLAND AND ESPECIALLY IN SCOTLAND WHICH WAS THE ORIGINAL HOME OF THE ALLENS. THE OLDEST KNOWN FORM OF THE NAME, FOUND ON 10TH CENTURY COINS WAS ALAMNUS. ACCORDING TO JOHN URQUHART IN THE AMERICAN WEEKLY OF MAY 15, 1960, IT IS LISTED AS ONE OF THE FIFTY MOST DISTINGUISHED NAMES IN AMERICAN HISTORY.

THE ALLEN COAT OF ARMS AS GIVEN IN BURKE'S PEERAGE IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

ARMS	SIX BIRDS ON A BLACK AND SILVER SHIELD.
CREST	A SILVER EAGLE, HOLDING IN ITS BEAK A GOLDEN ACORN WITH GREEN LEAVES.
MOTTO	TRUTH WITHOUT DECEIT.

AN AMERICAN FAMILY OF ROYAL DESCENT

EDWARD 3RD, KING OF ENGLAND, WAS THE FATHER OF PRINCE JOHN OF GAUNT. HIS DAUGHTER WAS LADY BEAUFORD WHO MARRIED SIR RALPH NEVILL. SIR EDWARD NEVILL WAS KNIGHTED 2ND LORD OF BERGOVENNY.

HIS DAUGHTER URSULA NEVILL MARRIED REV. DANIEL HORSMANDEN. MARIS HORSMANDEN, A DAUGHTER, MARRIED WILLIAM BYRD. THEY CAME TO WESTOVER, VIRGINIA IN 1694. WILLIAM THE 2ND HAD JANE BYRD. JANE BYRD MARRIED JOHN PAGE OF NORTH END, VIRGINIA.

JANE BYRD PAGE HAD AMONG OTHER CHILDREN, JUDITH PAGE, WHO MARRIED HIGH NELSON. LUCY NELSON, THEIR DAUGHTER, MARRIED EDMUND PENDELTON, JR. OF VIRGINIA. AMONG THEIR CHILDREN WAS HUGH PENDELTON WHO MARRIED LUCY NELSON, DAUGHTER OF ROBERT NELSON AND HIS WIFE, JUDITH CARTER.

JULIA PENDELTON, DAUGHTER OF HUGH PENDELTON, MARRIED JAMES ALLEN OF BEDFORD, NORTH CAROLINA.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
OF
GEORGE LEE ALLEN AND HIS PROGENY

GEORGE LEE ALLEN WAS BORN IN HALIFAX, NORTH CAROLINA IN 1745. HIS FATHER, ROBERT ALLEN, WAS A NATIVE OF ENGLAND. IT IS BELIEVED THAT HE WAS BORN IN THE VICINITY OF LONDON. THE DATE OF HIS BIRTH OR OF HIS ARRIVAL IN THIS COUNTRY IS NOT KNOWN. HE WAS ENGAGED IN THE IMPORT AND EXPORT BUSINESS IN ENGLAND AND CONTINUED IN THAT LINE OF WORK AFTER HIS SETTLEMENT IN THIS COUNTRY.

GEORGE ALLEN MARRIED SUSANNAH RIEVES IN 1765. SUSANNAH WAS THE DAUGHTER OF A FRENCH HUGUENOT. HER FAMILY CAME TO THIS COUNTRY AROUND 1680 AFTER THE REVOCATION OF THE EDICT OF NANTES. THE HUGUENOTS WERE OF THE PROTESTANT FAITH AND SUFFERED SEVERELY IN FRANCE UNDER LOUIS XIV. MEMBERS OF THIS FAITH SUFFERED THE LOSS OF THOUSANDS IN THE MASSACRE OF ST. BARTHALOMEW ON AUGUST 24, 1572. THOUSANDS FLED THE COUNTRY, MANY COMING TO THIS LAND.

FOUR CHILDREN WERE BORN TO THIS COUPLE. THESE WERE GEORGE, BEN, JAMES AND WILLIAM. WILLIAM MARRIED CATHERINE SMITH, WHOSE MOTHER WAS OF IRISH DESCENT.

GEORGE ALLEN FOUGHT IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND
WAS IN THE BATTLE OF EUTAW SPRINGS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.
GEORGE ALLEN DIED IN 1836 AT THE AGE OF 91.

THE ABOVE INFORMATION WAS TAKEN FROM ALLEN FAMILY
RECORDS BY J. MONTGOMERY SEAVER, FOUND ON MICROFILM
IN THE DALLAS PUBLIC LIBRARY. THIS WORK IS A VERY
COMPREHENSIVE HISTORY OF MANY BRANCHES OF THIS
FAMILY.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
OF
ELI ALLEN AND HIS PROGENY

ELI ALLEN WAS BORN IN 1802 IN NORTH CAROLINA, THE SON OF WILLIAM AND CATHERINE ALLEN. ELI ALLEN MARRIED ELIZABETH HENSLEY AT AN EARLY AGE. EIGHT CHILDREN WERE BORN TO THIS MARRIAGE. THEY ARE LISTED AS FOLLOWS:

WILLIAM ALLEN	1832
LEWIS ALLEN	1829
LEE ALLEN	1835
KISSIAT ALLEN	1836
THOMAS ALLEN	1839
JAMES ALLEN	1840
WESTLEY ALLEN	1842
JANE ALLEN	1844

ELI CAME TO ARKANSAS ABOUT 1820. HE FIRST MADE HIS WAY TO NEW ORLEANS, AND THEN UP THE MISSISSIPPI AND WHITE RIVERS TO DES ARC, FROM WHICH POINT HE MADE HIS WAY TO HEBER SPRINGS, BECOMING ONE OF THE EARLIEST SETTLERS OF THAT DISTRICT. DURING THE FIRST FEW YEARS IN ARKANSAS HE FISHED, HUNTED AND TRADED WITH THE INDIANS. HE LATER SECURED A LAND GRANT FROM THE GOVERNMENT. IT WAS COVERED WITH TIMBER, AND HE HAD

TO SPEND MUCH TIME CLEARING IT FOR FARMING. FROM THIS TIMBER HE ERECTED A TWO-ROOM LOG CABIN WHICH SERVED AS HIS HOME FOR SEVERAL YEARS.

ARKANSAS AT THIS TIME WAS STILL A TERRITORY AND THE SETTLERS WERE SUBJECTED TO EVERY KIND OF HARDSHIP. THE CABINS WERE OFTEN MANY MILES APART, FORCING THE FAMILIES TO RELY UPON THEMSELVES IN TIME OF DANGER OR DISASTER. THE OSAGE INDIANS HELD MUCH OF THE TERRITORY OF ARKANSAS AT THIS TIME. THEY WERE A NOMADIC AND WILD TRIBE OF INDIANS AND THE WHITE PEOPLE THAT LIVED AMONG THEM DID SO AT THE RISK OF THEIR LIVES. MOST OF THE SETTLERS CAME FROM TENNESSEE, KENTUCKY, NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA. WITH A VIRGIN FOREST EVERYWHERE, THEY HAD NOT FAR TO GO TO FIND LOGS WITH WHICH TO BUILD THEIR CABINS. THESE LOGS WERE HEWN OR CUT SO THAT THEY WERE FLAT ON FOUR SIDES. THE OPENINGS BETWEEN THE LOGS WERE FILLED WITH WET EARTH. SOME TIMES THE WOMEN FOLKS PASTED NEWSPAPERS ON THE WALLS TO ADD TO THE BEAUTY OF THE HOME. COOKING WAS DONE ON A LARGE FIRE PLACE, WHICH WAS SOMETIMES THE ONLY LIGHT. KEROSENE WAS NOT IN USE AT THIS TIME. ALL THE FURNITURE WAS MADE AT HOME. ELI ALLEN OFTEN MENTIONED TO HIS CHILDREN SOME OF THE HIGH LIGHTS OF THIS EARLY PERIOD. ONE SUCH EVENT THAT

HE OBSERVED WAS THE REMOVAL OF THE INDIANS FROM GEORGIA, ALABAMA AND FLORIDA TO THEIR NEW HOME IN OKLAHOMA. IT WAS ABOUT NOVEMBER 2, 1832 THAT THE VAN GUARD OF THIS ARMY OF FUGITIVES APPEARED IN LITTLE ROCK IN THE SHAPE OF SIX OR SEVEN THOUSAND CHOCTAW AND CHICKASAW INDIANS. THE MEN WERE MOUNTED ON PONIES ATTIRE IN THE USUAL BREECH CLOTH, LEGGINS, AND BEADED MOCCASONS, DRIVING THEIR CATTLE BEFORE THEM. MANY OF THE WOMEN HAD PAPOOSES SLUNG OVER THEIR BACKS. THEY WERE SEVERAL DAYS IN CROSSING THE RIVER. ALTHOUGH HURRIED OUT OF TOWN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, MANY HAD A DESIRE TO LOITER, AND HAD TO BE DRIVEN LIKE SHEEP. IN THE SPRING OF 1833, ACCORDING TO ALLEN, ANOTHER ARMY APPEARED NEAR LITTLE ROCK ON THEIR WAY WEST. CHOLERA WAS RAGING AMONG THE GROUP AND THEY WERE FORCED TO GO TO THE NORTH OF THE CITY. ABOUT TWO THOUSAND OF THESE PEOPLE DIED IN ARKANSAS FROM THIS SCOURGE. MANY AT THAT TIME CALLED IT THE TRAIL OF TEARS.

THE ALLEN NAME WAS WELL REPRESENTED IN EARLY ARKANSAS HISTORY. PERHAPS THE MOST NOTED WAS THAT OF WILLIAM O. ALLEN, WHO WAS FOR MANY YEARS, HEAD OF THE ARKANSAS MILITIA. IN 1819, WILLIAM WAS ELECTED TO THE LEGISLATURE AND IT WAS DURING HIS TERM OF OFFICE THAT A FAMOUS DUEL TOOK PLACE BETWEEN HIM AND ROBERT C. ODEN.

THE DUEL OCCURED ON AN ISLAND IN THE ARKANSAS RIVER ON MARCH 10, 1820. ALLEN FIRED FIRST AND HIS BULLET WENT TRUE TO ITS MARK, STRUCK A BUTTON OVER ODEN'S HEART, GLANCING ASIDE AND INFLICTING A SEVERE BUT NOT MORTAL WOUND. THE IMPACT OF THE BULLET KNOCKED ODEN DOWN, AND AS HE FELL HE FIRED A RANDOM SHOT WHICH STRUCK ALLEN IN THE HEAD, KILLING HIM INSTANTLY. OVER A THOUSAND PEOPLE WERE ON HAND TO WATCH THE DUEL BETWEEN THESE TWO NOTED PEOPLE. THE DUEL OF THESE FAMOUS MEN CAUSED THE LEGISLATURE TO PASS AN IRON-CLAD LAW AGAINST DUELING. NO DUELS HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO OCCUR SINCE THEN. ALLEN LEFT A LARGE ESTATE. ACCORDING TO JOSIAH H. SHINN, AUTHOR OF PIONEERS OF ARKANSAS, THE ADVERTISED LIST OF THE PROPERTY FILLED NEARLY A COLUMN OF THE GAZETTE POST. THUS ENDED ONE OF THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL FIGURES IN ARKANSAS HISTORY.

ELI ALLEN DIED IN 1887 AT THE AGE OF 85. HE WAS BURIED IN MOUNT OLIVE CEMETERY IN HEBER SPRINGS.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
OF
LEWIS ALLEN AND HIS PROGENY

LEWIS ALLEN WAS THE OLDEST SON OF ELI AND ELIZABETH ALLEN. HE WAS BORN IN 1829 IN THE OLD GILES TOWNSHIP IN CLEBURNE COUNTY, ARKANSAS. EIGHT CHILDREN WERE BORN TO LEWIS AND SARAH ALLEN. THEY WERE AS FOLLOWS:

DAVID ALLEN	1854
THOMAS ALLEN	1856
JAMES ALLEN	1858
ELIZABETH ALLEN	1861
SARAH ALLEN	1863
BEN ALLEN	1867
SUSAN ALLEN	1868

LEWIS ALLEN ACQUIRED A LARGE HOLDING OF LAND NEAR HEBER SPRINGS. THE 1860 FEDERAL CENSUS GAVE THE VALUE OF HIS LAND AT \$7,000.00. THIS WOULD INDICATE A LARGE NUMBER OF ACRES, AS THE VERY BEST OF LAND SELDOM COST MORE THAN \$10.00 AN ACRE. THREE BROTHERS, THOMAS, WESTLEY, AND JAMES MOVED IN WITH LEWIS ABOUT 1860 AND ASSISTED HIM IN RUNNING HIS FARM. VERY LITTLE INFORMATION WAS FOUND CONCERNING THIS FAMILY, BUT IT IS BELIEVED THAT SEVERAL OF HIS

CHILDREN MIGRATED TO WHAT WAS THEN THE INDIAN
TERRITORY.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
OF
JAMES ALLEN AND HIS PROGENY

JAMES ALLEN, THE SIXTH CHILD BORN TO ELI ALLEN WAS BORN IN 1840 IN CLEBURNE COUNTY. TWO CHILDREN WERE BORN TO JAMES AND JUNE ALLEN. THEY WERE AS FOLLOWS:

SALLY ALLEN	1867
ADDIE ALLEN	1869

JAMES ALLEN SETTLED NEAR THE OLD HOMESTEAD. HE BOUGHT SEVERAL HUNDRED ACRES OF VIRGIN LAND AND CLEARED A LARGE PART OF IT FOR FARMING. LITTLE INFORMATION COULD BE FOUND CONCERNING HIS LATER LIFE OR THAT OF HIS CHILDREN.

NO INFORMATION COULD BE FOUND ABOUT THE REMAINING CHILDREN OF ELI ALLEN. IT IS LIKELY THAT WILLIAM, LEE, AND WESTLEY ALLEN JOINED THE THOUSANDS OF OTHERS WHO WENT WEST TO FIND NEW HOMES.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
OF
THOMAS ALLEN AND HIS PROGENY

THOMAS ALLEN WAS BORN IN 1839 IN WHAT WAS THEN
OLD VAN BUREN COUNTY AND NOW CLEBURNE COUNTY.

THOMAS WAS EDUCATED IN THE OLD TIME SUBSCRIPTION
SCHOOL. THE SCHOOL WAS A LOG STRUCTURE WITH
SPLIT LOG BENCHES AND PUNCHEON FLOORS. THOMAS
MARRIED MISSOURI BUTLER, A MEMBER OF A PIONEER
FAMILY, IN 1867. MISSOURI, HAVING BEEN BORN IN
1851, WAS ONLY 16 YEARS OF AGE AT THE TIME OF
MARRIAGE. TEN CHILDREN WERE BORN TO THIS COUPLE.
THEY WERE AS FOLLOWS:

JAMES ALLEN	MAY 2, 1868
E. B. ALLEN	SEPT. 23, 1870
MARY ALICE ALLEN	SEPT. 30, 1873
EFFIE ALLEN	NOV. 3, 1875
DORA MAY ALLEN	AUG. 12, 1878
JOHN FRANKLIN ALLEN	JULY 1, 1880
DAVID NATHAN ALLEN	MAY 10, 1883
THEOPHILUS G. ALLEN	JAN. 8, 1886
ETHAN S. ALLEN	JUNE 17, 1888
FRANCES N. ALLEN	SEPT. 19, 1890

DURING THE EARLY YEARS OF THOMAS' LIFE, ARKANSAS

WAS A WILD AND ROUGH FRONTIER TERRITORY. REARED IN THIS SURROUNDING, HE BECAME FAMILIAR WITH ALL CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOUND ON THE FRONTIER, AND BECAME A PART OF THE PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT OF THIS VIRGIN LAND. DURING HIS EARLY YOUTH HE HIRED OUT TO HIS OLDER BROTHERS, LEWIS, WHO TAUGHT HIM ALL THE ARTS OF FARMING, HUNTING AND THE KNACK OF TRADING WITH THE INDIANS.

IN 1861 HE ENLISTED FOR SERVICE IN THE CONFEDERATE ARMY, JOINING THE 10TH ARKANSAS INFANTRY, WITH WHICH HE SERVED THE GREATER PART OF THE TIME, LATER GOING TO MISSISSIPPI UNDER CAPTAIN MILLER. HE PARTICIPATED IN THE BATTLE OF SHILOH AND SERVED THROUGH THE ENTIRE PERIOD OF THE WAR. AFTER HIS RETURN FROM MILITARY SERVICE, HE AGAIN SETTLED IN VAN BUREN COUNTY, WHERE HE SECURED A LARGE TRACT OF LAND. THE TRACT WHICH HE SECURED WAS COVERED WITH TIMBER, WHICH HE CLEARED HIMSELF. AT ONE TIME HE OWNED A THOUSAND ACRES OF LAND, FOR WHICH HE PAID ONLY A DOLLAR AN ACRE. HE BUILT A LOG CABIN OF TWO ROOMS FROM TIMBER FOUND ON HIS LAND. IN THE EARLY DAYS MOST OF HIS TRADING WAS DONE AT BATESVILLE, AT DES ARC AND AT LITTLE ROCK. HE CROSSED THE ICE ON THE ARKANSAS RIVER AT LITTLE

ROCK IN ORDER TO GET TO MARKET. THERE WAS MUCH GAME TO BE HAD IN THIS SECTION OF THE COUNTRY IN THOSE DAYS, AND THE HUNTER HAD NO TROUBLE IN SECURING GAME FOR THE TABLE.

DURING THE CIVIL WAR MR. ALLEN LOST EVERY THING THAT HE HAD ACCUMULATED, AND WHEN HE RETURNED HOME, HIS STOCK CONSISTED OF ONE MULE. HE WAS NEVER ABLE TO RECOVER FROM THIS SET BACK. AFTER HIS OLDEST SON, JAMES, SETTLED IN TEXAS, THOMAS DECIDED TO BRING HIS FAMILY TO THIS NEWER LAND. THEY ARRIVED IN 1896 AFTER A TRIP THAT TOOK 26 DAYS. THEY SETTLED THREE MILES SOUTHWEST OF COMMERCE IN THE SCATTER BRANCH COMMUNITY. THOMAS ALLEN DIED IN 1898 AND WAS INTERRED IN THE SCATTER BRANCH CEMETERY NEAR HIS HOME. HIS WIFE PASSED AWAY IN 1919 IN CUMBY, TEXAS AT THE HOME OF HER DAUGHTER DORA. SHE TOO WAS BURIED IN THE SCATTER BRANCH CEMETERY.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
OF
JAMES GENOA ALLEN AND HIS PROGENY

JAMES G. ALLEN WAS THE FIRST BORN OF THOMAS AND MISSOURI ALLEN. HE WAS BORN IN HEBER SPRINGS ON MAY 2, 1868. JAMES GRADUATED FROM THE SUGAR LOAF MEDICAL ACADEMY IN HEBER SPRINGS. HE WAS VALEDICTORIAN OF HIS CLASS. HE LATER ATTENDED THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS, WHERE HE GRADUATED AS AN HONOR STUDENT IN 1891.

HE SET UP AN OFFICE IN HIRAM, ARKANSAS AND PRACTICED HIS CHOSEN PROFESSION DURING THE YEARS 1891 THROUGH 1893. HE MARRIED MISS ESTHER MORRIS OF HEBER SPRINGS EARLY IN THE YEAR OF 1890. ONE SON, CLARENCE GENOA ALLEN, WAS BORN TO THIS UNION. ESTHER ALLEN DIED EARLY IN THE YEAR 1891.

DR. ALLEN CAME TO HUNT COUNTY, TEXAS IN 1893 AND SETTLED IN THE SCATTER BRANCH COMMUNITY. HE MARRIED MISS ROSA HORN OF ASHLAND, ALABAMA IN 1906. DR. ALLEN WAS A MEMBER OF THE SCATTER BRANCH BAPTIST CHURCH. DR. ALLEN WAS THE TYPICAL COUNTRY DOCTOR OF THAT TIME. HE MANY TIMES RECALLED THE HARDSHIPS AND TRIALS THAT WENT WITH THE LIFE OF A COUNTRY DOCTOR. IT HAD BOTH ITS AMUSING AND

TRAGIC EVENTS. HE RECALLED ONE EVENT THAT WAS OF COMMON OCCURANCE. "I WAS CALLED ONE DARK EVENING TO A HOUSE SOME TWELVE MILES FROM MY OFFICE. IT WAS SNOWING AND FREEZING. ICICLES HUNG FROM MY BUGGY. I HAD TO OPEN FOUR OR FIVE WIRE GATES. IT TOOK ABOUT TWO HOURS TO DRIVE IT. AFTER I GOT THERE I FOUND A BOY OF EIGHT WITH DIPHTHERIA. THE FATHER UNHITCHED THE TEAM AND TIED THEM ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF A CRIB UNDER AN OPEN SHED AND GAVE THEM SOME HAY. THERE WAS ONLY ONE LARGE ROOM WITH A FIRE PLACE. THE FAMILY OCCUPIED THIS ROOM ALONG WITH THREE DOGS. IN MOST TRIPS OF THIS SORT I WOULD STAY OVER NIGHT. IT ALWAYS MADE THE FAMILY FEEL BETTER. IN THIS CASE I BEDDED DOWN ON THE FLOOR NEAR THE FIREPLACE. IN A FEW MINUTES I WAS JOINED BY THE THREE DOGS. I SLEPT PRETTY WARM DURING THE NIGHT. ABOUT THE ONLY INCONVENIENCES I SUFFERED WAS A SORE BACK AND A CROP OF FLEAS FROM THE DOGS. IN THE MORNING AFTER A BREAKFAST OF HOT BISCUITS, EGGS AND HAM, I STARTED HOME. THE BOY'S FATHER TOLD ME THAT HE DID NOT HAVE A DIME, BUT WOULD PAY ME AS SOON AS HE GOT SOME. THREE YEARS LATER HE DID. ON ANOTHER OCCASION I RECEIVED A CALL FROM A WOMAN TELLING ME THAT HER HUSBAND WAS IN GREAT PAIN AND

WOULD I HURRY. AFTER I GOT THERE I FOUND A MAN WITH A SEVERELY CRUSHED HAND. HE HAD BEEN IN PAIN FOR SEVERAL DAYS BUT WOULD NOT LET HIS WIFE CALL A DOCTOR BECAUSE OF HIS RELIGIOUS BELIEFS. AFTER GIVING HIM A SHOT I STARTED TO WORK ON THE HAND. ALL THE TIME HE WOULD SAY "THE LORD IS SAVING MY HAND," AND I WOULD CALMLY CONTINUE WITH MY WORK ADDING "YES" AND WE ARE HELPING TOO." ONE DAY I HAD JUST MADE A COUNTRY CALL, MILES OUT. IT WAS WET AND COLD; THE MUDDY ROADS WERE NEARLY IMPASSABLE. IT WAS ABOUT SUN UP ON THE RETURN TRIP TO TOWN, ABOUT TWO MILES FROM HOME AND IN A LONG BOGGY STRETCH OF ROAD WHEN I MET A FORMER PATIENT OF MINE WHO STILL OWED ME FOR A CHILD I HAD DELIVERED. HE WAS STANDING BESIDE THE MUDDY TRACKS IN THE ROAD AND HE SAID "GOOD MORNING DOCTOR, IS SOME BODY SICK?" I SAID WHAT IN THE H-- YOU DON'T THINK I AM OUT JUST BUGGY RIDING DO YOU?"

DR. ALLEN MOVED FROM THE SCATTER BRANCH COMMUNITY ABOUT 1920 TO COMMERCE, TEXAS WHERE HE SET UP AN OFFICE. HE AND HIS SON OPERATED AN OFFICE TOGETHER FOR MANY YEARS. DR. ALLEN RETAINED PERFECT HEALTH UNTIL A FEW YEARS BEFORE HE DIED. MAJOR ILLNESSES WAS A RARE THING AMONG THIS LARGE FAMILY. THEY ALL ENJOYED GOOD HEALTH AND A LONG LIFE. EVEN

THOUGH THE OLDER GENERATION HAD DARK HAIR, GREY HAIR WAS SELDOM FOUND, EVEN IN VERY LATE LIFE. BALDNESS WAS ANOTHER CHARACTERISTIC THAT WAS COMPLETELY ABSENT IN THE FAMILY.

DR. ALLEN DIED ON MAY 23, 1941 AT COMMERCE AND WAS BURIED IN ROSEMOUND CEMETERY THERE. HIS WIFE ROSA ALLEN DIED IN DECEMBER OF 1958 AT THE AGE OF 85.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
OF
BEN E. ALLEN AND HIS PROGENY

BEN E. ALLEN, THE SECOND SON OF THOMAS AND MISSOURI ALLEN WAS BORN ON SEPTEMBER 23, 1870 IN CLEBURNE COUNTY, ARKANSAS. BEN WAS EDUCATED IN THE COMMON SCHOOLS OF HEBER SPRINGS AND REMAINED IN CLEBURNE COUNTY DURING HIS BOYHOOD AND YOUTH. HE AFTERWARDS TAUGHT A FEW TERMS IN THE RURAL SCHOOLS OF ARKANSAS, AND THEN TOOK UP THE OCCUPATION OF FARMING. HE BOUGHT AND CLEARED LAND, SECURING A PART OF HIS FATHER'S OLD HOMESTEAD.

IN 1893 HE CAME TO WHITE COUNTY AND ENTERED THE EMPLOY OF THE MILLER LUMBER COMPANY, OCCUPYING THE POSITION OF GENERAL MANAGER FOR EIGHT YEARS. HE NEXT PURCHASED 160 ACRES OF LAND NEAR BEBEE AND WHILE ENGAGED IN FARMING THERE HE SERVED AS CONSTABLE AND DEPUTY SHERIFF FOR A PERIOD OF EIGHT YEARS. HE AFTERWARDS WAS ELECTED JUSTICE OF THE PEACE AT BEBEE AND OCCUPIED THAT POSITION FOR FOUR YEARS. IN 1920 HE WAS ELECTED TO THE OFFICE OF SHERIFF. HE SERVED TWO TERMS IN THAT OFFICE.

AFTER HIS TERM OF SHERIFF, HE BECAME ACTIVE IN POLITICS OF THE STATE, SERVING AS CAMPAIGN MANAGER

FOR SEVERAL GOVERNORS OF THE STATE. AS A RESULT OF THIS ACTIVITY, HE WAS APPOINTED TO THE HEAD OF THE PRISON FARM SYSTEM OF ARKANSAS. HE HELD THAT POSITION UNTIL HIS RETIREMENT IN 1940.

BEN WAS MARRIED TO JENNIE THOMPSON, WHO WAS BORN IN WHITE COUNTY, A DAUGHTER OF WES THOMPSON, A FARMER AND STOCK DEALER. THEY BECAME THE PARENTS OF SIX CHILDREN. THEY WERE OPAL, WHO IS THE WIFE OF ALBERT BEVILL, A FARMER OF WHITE COUNTY; NELLIE, THE WIFE OF ELBERT WALLS, A BARBER OF COBAT, ARKANSAS. THE OTHER CHILDREN WERE ELVIS, VELDA, AND OATLEY.

MRS. ALLEN WAS A MEMBER OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. BEN BELONGED TO THE MASONIC ORDER, AS WELL AS THE WOODMEN OF THE WORLD.

DURING HIS TENURE WITH THE ARKANSAS PRISON SYSTEM, HE BECAME NOTED FOR HIS REHABILITATION WORK AMONG THE PRISONERS. MANY NEW IDEAS AND CHANGES WERE INSTITUTED IN THE PENAL SYSTEM. MANY OF THESE WERE LATER COPIED BY OTHER STATES.

BEN ALLEN'S FIRST WIFE DIED IN 1932 AFTER A LONG ILLNESS. BEN LATER MARRIED IDA SPINKS OF HOT SPRINGS. THEY LIVED FOR MANY YEARS ON ONE OF THE PRISON FARMS WHERE HE SERVED AS MANAGER AND WARDEN.

IN 1940 BEN RETIRED FROM THE PRISON SYSTEM AND
MOVED TO LITTLE ROCK. HE DIED THERE IN 1947
AT THE AGE OF 77.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

OF

DORA MAY ALLEN AND HER PROGENY

DORA MAY ALLEN WAS BORN IN HEBER SPRINGS ON AUGUST 12, 1878. DORA, LIKE ALL THE OTHER CHILDREN, CAME TO TEXAS WITH HER FAMILY AT AN EARLY AGE. SHE COULD RECALL VIVIDLY THE TRIP THE FAMILY MADE IN A COVERED WAGON. BUT BEING THE ONLY GIRL IN THE FAMILY, SHE WAS ALLOWED TO RIDE IN THE WAGON INSTEAD OF WALKING LIKE HER BROTHERS.

DORA MAY ATTENDED THE RURAL SCHOOLS OF HUNT COUNTY ALONG WITH HER BROTHERS. UNLIKE THE BOYS, HOWEVER, SHE NEVER HAD TO WORK IN THE FIELDS. INSTEAD SHE HELPED HER MOTHER WITH THE HOUSE WORK, WHICH WAS NOT ANY EASY JOB. SHE USED TO RECALL THAT SHE WOULD GET UP AT FOUR O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING DURING THE SUMMER TO HELP HER MOTHER WITH BREAKFAST IN ORDER THAT THE BOYS COULD BE IN THE FIELDS BY SUN UP. A BREAKFAST OF A DOZEN OR SO EGGS WITH HUGE SLABS OF HAM, PLUS HOT BISCUITS WAS A MATTER TO BE ATTENDED TO EVERY MORNING.

DORA WAS THE ONLY GIRL IN THIS LARGE FAMILY. SHE HAD TWO SISTERS, AS WELL AS A BROTHER, WHO DIED AT

AN EARLY AGE. THEY WERE: MARY ALICE, BORN SEPTEMBER 30, 1878; DAVID NATHAN ALLEN, BORN MAY 10, 1883; EFFIE JOSEPHINE ALLEN, BORN NOVEMBER 3, 1875.

DORA RESEMBLED HER MOTHER IN MANY WAYS. SHE WAS A LARGE WOMAN WITH DARK HAIR, HIGH CHEEK BONES, AND AN ERECT FIGURE. HER FEATURES WERE AN INDICATION OF THE INDIAN BLOOD SHE HAD INHERITED FROM HER MOTHER. MISSOURI BUTLER ALLEN WAS A QUARTER CHEROKEE INDIAN. SHE EXHIBITED IN MANY WAYS THE STOIC INDIVIDUALISM AND COURAGE CHARACTERISTIC OF THAT RACE OF PEOPLE. NOT ONLY DORA, BUT ALL THE CHILDREN INHERITED SOME OF THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL TRAITS FOUND IN THIS RACE.

A NIECE OF MISSOURI ALLEN, ANN BURNS, WENT TO OKLAHOMA AFTER THE CHEROKEE INDIANS WERE PLACED ON RESERVATION THERE AND MADE A CLAIM TO HER INDIAN RIGHTS. HER SON BECAME A CHIEF OF ONE OF THE CHEROKEE TRIBES. HE WAS THE FIRST INDIAN TO BEAR THE NAME "BURNS."

MISSOURI BUTLER HAD TWO SISTERS, DORA AND FLORENCE BUTLER, AND ONE BROTHER, JOHN. THE DESCENDENTS OF THESE STILL LIVE IN AND AROUND HIRAM, ARKANSAS. THERE IS A CREEK NAMED BUTLER CREEK IN EITHER THE

SOUTHERN PART OF MISSOURI OR THE NORTHERN PART
OF ARKANSAS NAMED AFTER THIS FAMILY.

DORA ALLEN MARRIED AT AN EARLY AGE. HER FIRST
HUSBAND WAS MANSON JAMES, A BAPTIST MINISTER.
TO THIS UNION WAS BORN TWO CHILDREN, CLARENCE
AND ALICE JAMES. AFTER THE DEATH OF JAMES SHE
MARRIED JOE TEDFORD. FOR SOME YEARS THEY FARMED
SOUTH OF COMMERCE AND THEN MOVED TO PUEBELO,
COLORADO, WHERE HER HUSBAND WORKED IN THE STEEL
MILLS. IN THE LATE 1920'S THEY MOVED TO LUBBOCK.
THREE CHILDREN WERE BORN TO THIS UNION. THEY WERE
FLOSSIE, DOYLE, AND JEWEL. DOYLE AND JEWEL DIED
JUST A FEW DAYS APART IN 1918 IN PUEBELO FROM
INFLUENZE. FLOSSIE NOW LIVES IN LUTTOCK.

DORA MAY PASSED AWAY IN 1947 WAS WAS INTERRED IN
A LUBBOCK CEMETERY.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
OF
JOHN FRANKLIN ALLEN AND HIS PROGENY

JOHN F. ALLEN WAS BORN IN HEBER SPRINGS ON JULY 1, 1880. HE CAME TO TEXAS AT THE AGE OF 13, WHERE HE SPENT HIS YOUTH. HE ATTENDED SCATTER BRANCH RURAL HIGH SCHOOL. AFTER HIS SCHOOLING THERE HE MADE APPLICATION TO ATTEND MEDICAL SCHOOL, BUT DUE TO FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES HE NEVER WAS ABLE TO FULFILL THAT AMBITION.

AT THE AGE OF 18 JOHN RETURNED TO ARKANSAS AND BEGAN WORK AS A FARM HAND. IT WAS DURING THIS PERIOD THAT HE BECAME INVOLVED IN THE STRUGGLE THAT WAS GOING ON BETWEEN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS OF ARKANSAS AND A LARGE BAND OF BANDITS THAT HAD BEEN RAVAGING THE COUNTRY SIDE FOR SEVERAL YEARS. ALONG THE MISSOURI BORDER A BAND OF DESPERADOES INFESTED THE HILLS, LIVING IN ABANDONED CABINS OFF THE MAIN ROUTE. THE BAND HAD BEEN ESTIMATED TO NUMBER MORE THAN A HUNDRED. AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN ARKANSAS, JOHN HAD BEEN MADE A MEMBER OF A SHERIFF POSSE THAT HAD BEEN FORMED TO HELP PROTECT THE PEOPLE.

IT WAS WHILE HE WAS WORKING AS A FARM HELPER TO A WIDOW AND HER DAUGHTER THAT HE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY

TO MEET SOME OF THESE DESPERATE MEN FACE TO FACE.

IT WAS A COLD NIGHT IN JANUARY, YOUNG ALLEN RECALLED, WHEN HE WAS AROUSED FROM SLEEP BY THE SOUND OF HORSES' HOOFS ON THE FROZEN GROUND AND THE BARKING OF THE FAMILY DOG, AND LATER A SHOT. BY THE TIME HE HAD DRESSED, THREE MEN HAD FORCED THEIR WAY INTO THE HOUSE, CARRYING THE HEAD BODY OF THE FAMILY DOG WHICH THEY PLACED ON THE DINING TABLE. THEY AT ONCE AROUSED THE TWO WOMEN FROM BED AND ORDERED THEM TO PREPARE A MEAL FOR THEM. THEY WERE CONTINUALLY THREATENING THE WOMEN WITH BODILY HARM IF THEY DID NOT HURRY. AFTER A FEW MINUTES THEY ORDERED JOHN TO GO AND DIRECT ONE OF THEM TO A NEARBY STILL AND GET A GALLON OF WHISKEY. YOUNG ALLEN FEIGNED A LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF SUCH A STILL, FEARING TO LEAVE THE WOMEN ALONE, WHO WERE NOW HYSTERICAL WITH FEAR. THE MEN REFUSED TO BELIEVE HIM AND THREATENED HIM WITH A STICK OF STOVE WOOD. EVEN THOUGH HE WAS ONLY 18 AND OUTNUMBERED, ALLEN DECIDED TO TAKE A DESPERATE CHANCE. THE OUTLAWS HAD FAILED TO SEARCH THE YOUNG BOY, NOT KNOWING THAT HE HAD A SMALL CALIBER PISTOL HIDDEN IN THE TOP OF HIS HIGH BOOTS. AS ALLEN RECALLED, TWO OF THE MEN HAD PULLED A BENCH UP BEFORE THE FIREPLACE AND WERE SITTING ON IT WITH THEIR BACKS TO THE FIRE. THE OTHER MAN WAS STANDING NEARBY. AS

JOHN WALKED OUT THE DOOR TO GET HIS COAT, HE PULLED THE SMALL PISTOL FROM HIS BOOTS AND FIRED TWICE AT THE TWO MEN ON THE BENCH. ONE OF THE MEN FELL BACKWARDS INTO THE FIRE. THE OTHER TWO LEAPED BEHIND A BED. ALLEN FLED OUT THE DOOR AND HID UNDER THE DOOR STEPS. HE COULD HEAR THE MEN SEARCHING FOR HIM, BUT LUCKILY THEY NEVER LOOKED UNDER THE STEPS. IN A FEW MINUTES THEY LEFT. THE TWO MEN CARRIED THE MAN HE HAD SHOT AWAY WITH THEM. THE WOMEN SAID THEY THOUGHT HE WAS DEAD. AFTER PUTTING THE WOMEN IN A WAGON AND SENDING THEM TO A NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE, JOHN WENT TO THE HOUSE OF A FRIEND TO SPEND THE NIGHT.

LATER, NEXT DAY IN THE LITTLE TOWN OF HARRISON, ARKANSAS, HE LEARNED THAT THE MAN HE HAD SLAIN WAS THE LEADER OF THE BANDIT GANG. THE PEOPLE OF THIS SMALL TOWN WERE OVERJOYED AT THIS RIDDANCE AND HEAPED MONEY AND CLOTHES ON THE YOUNG MAN FOR HIS COURAGE. A CURIOUS TWIST TO THIS EVENT OCCURED SOME 40 YEARS LATER WHEN JOHN ALLEN RETURNED TO ARKANSAS TO VISIT HIS BROTHER BEN ALLEN, WHO WAS AN OFFICIAL OF THE PRISON SYSTEM. DURING A TRIP THROUGH DEATH ROW, BEN POINTED OUT A MIDDLE-AGED MAN AWAITING EXECUTION FOR MURDER. THIS MAN WAS THE SON OF THE BANDIT CHIEFTAIN. ALLEN WENT INTO

THE CELL AND TALKED WITH THE CONDEMNED MAN, BUT HE NEVER TOLD ANY ONE WHAT THE CONVERSATION WAS ABOUT.

ALLEN LATER RETURNED TO TEXAS AND TOOK UP FARMING NEAR THE OLD FAMILY HOME. TIRING OF THIS, HE BEGAN FOLLOWING THE WHEAT HARVESTERS OVER THE GREAT PLAINS. DURING A SHORT INTERVAL, HE WORKED IN THE STEEL MILLS IN PUEBELO, COLORADO, LIVING WITH HIS SISTER DORA. ABOUT 1911 HE AGAIN RETURNED TO TEXAS, WHERE HE MARRIED MRS. ELIZABETH JANE WESLEY, NEE HORN, WHO HAD RECENTLY COME FROM ALABAMA TO VISIT HER SISTER, MRS. JAMES G. ALLEN. HE BEGAN FARMING AGAIN NEAR COMMERCE.

TWO CHILDREN WERE BORN TO THIS UNION. BRODIE BECTON ALLEN, BORN NOVEMBER 18, 1913. BRODIE DIED AT THE AGE OF FIVE MONTHS AND WAS BURIED IN THE SCATTER BRANCH CEMETERY. JOE D. ALLEN WAS BORN ON OCTOBER 12, 1914. HE ATTENDED THE COMMERCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND GRADUATED FROM EAST TEXAS STATE IN 1938. HE MOVED TO FORT WORTH IN 1939, WHERE HE SERVED AS VICE-PRESIDENT AND HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AT DURHAM'S JUNIOR COLLEGE OF BUSINESS, A PRIVATE SCHOOL, FOR 15 YEARS.

JOHN ALLEN AND HIS WIFE MOVED TO FORT WORTH IN 1939

AFTER HIS RETIREMENT. HE PASSED AWAY ON SEPTEMBER
21, 1946. HE WAS INTERRED IN GREENWOOD CEMETERY
IN FORT WORTH. HIS WIFE, ELIZABETH ALLEN, PASSED
AWAY ON FEBRUARY 7, 1958. HE WAS ALSO INTERRED IN
GREENWOOD CEMETERY.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
OF
THEOPHILUS G. ALLEN AND HIS PROGENY

THEOPHILUS G. ALLEN WAS BORN IN HEBER SPRINGS, ARKANSAS ON JANUARY 8, 1886. HE TRAVELED WITH HIS PARENTS TO COMMERCE, TEXAS IN 1896.

THE FAMILY SETTLED SOME THREE MILES SOUTH WEST OF COMMERCE, TEXAS IN WHAT WAS THEN KNOWN AS HEATHEN FLAT. NO ONE SEEMED TO KNOW THE ORIGIN OF THIS NAME. THE LAND IN THIS PART OF THE COUNTY WAS VERY RICH, AND IF THE WEATHER CONDITIONS WERE RIGHT, A RICH HARVEST COULD BE EXPECTED. SHORTLY AFTER MOVING TO HUNT COUNTY, HIS FATHER THOMAS ALLEN DIED. THE FAMILY CONTINUED TO LIVE ON THE HOMESTEAD. THE OLDEST SON, JAMES, TOOK OVER THE DUTIES AS FATHER TO THE LARGE FAMILY. THE BOYS WORKED HARD IN THE FIELDS AND DID ODD JOBS TO HELP SUPPLEMENT THE FAMILY INCOME.

THEOPHILUS RECALLED THAT THE FAMILY WAS A VERY CLOSE ONE. IT WAS KNOWN IN THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY THAT IF YOU LICKED ONE OF THE ALLEN BOYS, YOU HAD TO LICK ALL THE OTHERS TOO. FOR THIS REASON, THE OTHER BOYS OF THE COMMUNITY REFRAINED FROM PROVOKING ANY TROUBLE.

THOMAS AND MISSOURI ALLEN BROUGHT THE CHILDREN UP IN A CHRISTIAN HOME, WHERE THE BELT WAS USED GENEROUSLY IF THE PARENTS THOUGHT THE CHILDREN NEEDED IT. THOMAS ALLEN ALSO TAUGHT THE CHILDREN TO RESPECT OTHERS, BUT HE TOO TAUGHT THEM HOW TO DEFEND THEMSELVES WHEN THE NEED AROSE. THEOPHILUS RECALLED AN INCIDENT WHICH BORE THIS OUT. HE, ALONG WITH HIS FATHER AND YOUNGER BROTHER ETHAN, WERE RETURNING HOME IN A WAGON FROM A TRIP THEY HAD MADE SOUTH EAST OF COMMERCE, WHEN THREE BOYS BEGAN ROCKING THE MULES. TWO OF THE BOYS STOPPED AFTER HIS FATHER TOLD THEM THAT THEY WERE SCARING THE MULES. HOWEVER, ONE OF THE BOYS CONTINUED TO FOLLOW THE WAGON, JEERING AND TAUNTING THE TRIO. FINALLY, RECALLED THEOPHILUS, PA STOPPED THE MULES AND LOOKED BACK AT ME. "SON" HE SAID, "I WANT YOU TO GET DOWN AND WHIP THAT BOY." I LOOKED AT THE BOY, WHO WAS OLDER AND LARGER THAN I WAS, AND BEGAN TRYING TO FIGURE SOME WAY TO GET OUT OF IT. I LOOKED AT PA AGAIN AND SAID, "PA DO I HAVE TO?" PA NEVER HESITATED A SECOND. "YOU EITHER LICK THE DAYLIGHTS OUT OF HIM OR I'LL GIVE YOU A LICKING WHEN WE GET HOME." THINKING THAT I MIGHT AS WELL GET LICKED HERE AS AT HOME, I GOT DOWN FROM THE WAGON AND TORE INTO HIM. IT WAS THE HARDEST FIGHT I EVER HAD, BUT I FINALLY GOT THE BEST OF HIM.

WHEN I GOT BACK IN THE WAGON, PA PATTED ME ON
THE BACK AND DROVE ON.

1919014

AFTER ATTENDING THE RURAL SCHOOLS IN HUNT COUNTY,
THEOPHILUS TOOK UP FARMING NEAR COMMERCE. HE
MARRIED MISS LIZZIE L. HORTON AT COMMERCE ON
DECEMBER 23, 1904.

HE SOON GAVE UP FARMING AND TOOK UP PHOTOGRAPHY AS
AN OCCUPATION. HE OPERATED STUDIOS AT COMMERCE,
BROWNFIELD, LUBBOCK, FORT SMITH AND HOT SPRINGS,
ARKANSAS.

THEOPHILUS AND LIZZIE ALLEN HAD FOUR CHILDREN,
WAYNE, PAUL, ALTON AND LOUISE. ALTON WAS BORN AT
COMMERCE MARCH 27, 1906. HE MARRIED EULA MOUNT
DECEMBER 20, 1927. THEY NOW LIVE IN BIG SPRINGS.
THEY HAVE TWO CHILDREN, DONALD, BORN IN LUBBOCK ON
THE 27TH OF APRIL, 1931. MELOA WAS BORN DECEMBER
28, 1933. WAYNE ALLEN WAS BORN JANUARY 17, 1910.
HE HAS AN ADOPTED SON, ROBERT L. ALLEN. PAUL WAS
BORN IN COMMERCE ON AUGUST 8, 1914. HE HAS THREE
SONS, RONNIE, A BAPTIST PREACHER BORN IN 1938,
JIMMY PAUL BORN IN 1942, AND DWAYNE BORN IN 1948.
JIMMY LOUISE WAS BORN MAY 10, 1921 AT COMMERCE.
SHE HAS ONE DAUGHTER, LINDA SUE, BORN AUGUST 8,
1946.

THEOPHILUS AND HIS WIFE NOW LIVE IN BIG SPRINGS, TEXAS.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
OF
ETHAN ALLEN AND HIS PROGENY

ETHAN S. ALLEN WAS BORN JUNE 17, 1888 IN HEBER SPRINGS. HE CAME TO TEXAS WITH HIS PARENTS AT AN EARLY AGE. NINE MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY MADE THIS LONG TREK, INCLUDING SEVEN CHILDREN. THE TRIP TOOK TWENTY-SIX DAYS. THE WAGON WAS HEAVILY LOADED WITH BEDDING AND COOKING UTENSILS, SO IT WAS NECESSARY FOR THE CHILDREN ABOVE THE AGE OF SEVEN TO WALK. THE FAMILY HAD PLENTY OF COMPANY ON THE WAY, AS MANY PEOPLE WERE COMING WEST AT THAT TIME.

THERE WERE NO SUCH THINGS AS PAVED ROADS IN THOSE DAYS, AND AFTER A HARD RAIN THE FAMILY WAS FORCED TO CAMP UNTIL THE ROADS DRIED OUT. THE FAMILY WOULD OFTEN JOIN OTHERS, MEMBERS OF THE TRAIN, AND COOK THEIR MEALS TOGETHER. THE CHILDREN ALWAYS ENJOYED THESE STOPS, AS IT GAVE THEM A CHANCE TO PLAY WITH THE OTHER CHILDREN. DURING A RAINY NIGHT, SLEEPING WAS A PROBLEM FOR THIS FAMILY OF NINE. THE WAGON WAS JUST NOT BIG ENOUGH FOR THEM ALL. IN THIS CASE THEY WOULD TAKE TURNS SLEEPING, OR IF THERE WERE OTHER WAGONS NEAR, THEY MIGHT BE INVITED TO SLEEP WITH THEM. DURING THE DAY THE

BOYS WOULD STOP OFF FOR A SWIM AND CATCH THE WAGON LATER THAT NIGHT. THE TRIP WAS AN EXCITING ONE FOR ALL. NEW SCENERY, NEW FACES AND THE THRILL OF LOOKING FORWARD TO THEIR NEW HOME. THEY HAD HEARD MANY STORIES ABOUT TEXAS BEFORE THEY LEFT ARKANSAS AND WERE ANXIOUS TO SEE IF SOME OF THE TALES WERE TRUE. THE WAGONS AT THAT TIME CROSSED THE RED RIVER ON A FERRY. THE WAGONS WOULD AVERAGE ABOUT TWELVE MILES PER DAY.

ETHAN SETTLED THREE MILES SOUTH WEST OF COMMERCE. HE ATTENDED THE OLD MAYO SCHOOL IN COMMERCE.

ETHAN TAUGHT IN TWO COUNTRY SCHOOLS NEAR COMMERCE AND ONE YEAR AT ANSON. HE MARRIED MISS HATTIE LOU HOPKINS DECEMBER 6, 1909. THEY WERE MARRIED NEAR COMMERCE. SHORTLY AFTER THEIR MARRIAGE HE BEGAN HIS LONG CAREER WITH THE GOVERNMENT AS A RAILWAY MAIL CLERK. THIS JOB HE HELD FOR 33 YEARS UNTIL HIS RETIREMENT.

MOST OF HIS MARRIED LIFE WAS SPENT IN WACO, TEXAS WHERE ONE SON, ETHAN WAS BORN ON JUNE 19, 1923.

ETHAN, JR. MARRIED MISS MARGARET WHITE FEBRUARY 10, 1945. HE HAS A SON JIM AND A DAUGHTER LYNN. HE IS NOW EMPLOYED WITH THE FORT WORTH NATIONAL BANK OF FORT WORTH.

ETHAN ALLEN, SR. NOW RESIDES IN COMMERCE, TEXAS,
HAVING MOVED THERE SOME THREE YEARS AGO.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
OF
FRANCES N. ALLEN AND HIS PROGENY

FRANCES ALLEN WAS BORN AT HEBER SPRINGS ON SEPTEMBER 19, 1890. HE MOVED TO COMMERCE, TEXAS WITH HIS PARENTS WHEN HE WAS A SMALL CHILD.

HE SPENT HIS EARLY BOYHOOD IN HUNT COUNTY, WHERE HE ATTENDED THE OLD SCATTER BRANCH SCHOOL. HE SECURED HIS EDUCATION UNDER A HARDSHIP. HE WAS FORCED TO WALK OVER FOUR MILES TO SCHOOL IN ALL KINDS OF WEATHER. AFTER FINISHING IN THE RURAL SCHOOLS, HE ATTENDED EAST TEXAS STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE IN COMMERCE AND LATER COMPLETED HIS TRAINING AT THE SOUTHWESTERN SEMINARY AT FORT WORTH.

F. N. ALLEN FARMED FOR SEVERAL YEARS SOUTH OF COMMERCE. HE MARRIED MISS ANNIE L. GAMBRELL OF CUMBY ON OCTOBER 20, 1912. AT THE AGE OF 25, HE WAS CALLED TO PREACH. FOR SEVERAL YEARS HE FILLED THE PULPITS OF SEVERAL RURAL CHURCHES IN HUNT COUNTY. IN 1927, HE WAS CALLED TO MEADOWS, TEXAS AS PASTOR OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH. HE AND HIS FAMILY MADE THE TRIP FROM CUMBY TO HIS NEW ASSIGNMENT IN A MODEL T FORD. THERE WERE NO PAVED

ROADS THEN, AND THE TRIP REQUIRED THREE DAYS.

THEY CAMPED OUT ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD, COOKING THEIR MEALS IN THE OPEN FIRE. THEY CAMPED THE FIRST NIGHT NEAR FORT WORTH AND THE NEXT NIGHT AT SPUR, TEXAS.

THE FINANCIAL REWARDS FOR A PREACHER IN THOSE DAYS WERE VERY MEAGER. THE SALARY MANY TIMES CONSISTED ONLY OF GROCERIES AND OTHER ITEMS THAT THE MEMBERS PRODUCED THEMSELVES. DESPITE THE HARDSHIPS HE MANAGED TO GIVE HIS TWO SONS A GOOD EDUCATION.

REVEREND ALLEN SERVED AS PASTOR OF MANY CHURCHES IN WEST TEXAS. AMONG THESE WERE: MEADOWS, TEXAS FOR THREE YEARS; LELIA LAKE FROM 1933 TO 1936; TURKEY, TWO YEARS; ANTON, FROM 1937 TO 1942; HALE CENTER FROM 1943 TO 1950; ROCKY FORD, 1950 TO 1951; LAKEVIEW, 1951 TO 1956. HE RETURNED TO HALE CENTER IN 1956 AND SERVED AS PASTOR THERE UNTIL HE RETIRED IN 1958. HE CONTINUED TO LIVE THERE UNTIL HIS DEATH IN JUNE OF 1958.

F. N. AND ANNIE ALLEN AND TWO CHILDREN; MILFORD ALLEN BORN IN 1914 AND TOMMIE BRONELL BORN IN 1918. MILFORD ALLEN GRADUATED FROM EAST TEXAS STATE. HE LATER SERVED WITH VALOR IN WORLD WAR 2, WHERE HE ROSE TO THE POSITION OF LIEUTENANT. AFTER THE WAR HE CONTINUED HIS EDUCATION AND GRADUATED WITH A PH.D.

DEGREE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN. HE
TAUGHT FOR SEVERAL YEARS AT TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE.
HE AND HIS WIFE HAVE THREE CHILDREN. TOMMIE ALLEN
FOLLOWED IN HIS FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS, HAVING BEEN
ORDAINED A BAPTIST MINISTER AT AN EARLY AGE.
TOMMIE AND HIS WIFE, EVELYN, HAVE FIVE CHILDREN.
MRS. F. N. ALLEN CONTINUES TO LIVE IN THE FAMILY
HOME AT HALE CENTER.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
OF
CLARENCE G. ALLEN AND HIS PROGENY

CLARENCE GENOA ALLEN WAS BORN IN PANGBURN, ARKANSAS ON JANUARY 21, 1891, THE ONLY CHILD OF JAMES AND ESTHER ALLEN.

WHEN HE WAS ONLY FOUR YEARS OF AGE, HE MOVED TO TEXAS AND SETTLED NEAR COMMERCE. CLARENCE WAS EDUCATED IN THE RURAL SCHOOLS OF HUNT COUNTY. HE LATER ATTENDED COMMERCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND WAS A GRADUATE OF EAST TEXAS STATE NORMAL COLLEGE UNDER THE LATE W. L. MAYO. IN 1915, HE GRADUATED FROM BAYLOR MEDICAL COLLEGE WITH HIGHEST HONORS. HE FOLLOWED HIS MEDICAL STUDY WITH INTERNSHIP AT PARKLAND HOSPITAL IN DALLAS, AND CONTINUED HIS STUDY AT THE MAYO CLINIC IN ROCHESTER, AND AT TULANE UNIVERSITY IN NEW ORLEANS.

FOLLOWING HIS MEDICAL TRAINING, DR. ALLEN OPENED HIS HOSPITAL AND CLINIC IN COMMERCE IN 1921 AND BEGAN HIS LONG SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF THE COMMUNITY. IN 1932 EAST TEXAS STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE HIRED DR. ALLEN AS ITS PHYSICIAN. DR. ALLEN WAS DIVISION DOCTOR AND SURGEON FOR THE COTTON BELT RAILROAD, A POSITION HE HELD FOR OVER 40 YEARS.

HE WAS ALSO DIVISION PHYSICIAN FOR THE SOUTHERN
PACIFIC RAILROAD.

DR. ALLEN'S FIRST WIFE WAS URSULA PIERSON OF
WHITEWRIGHT, TEXAS. TWO CHILDREN WERE BORN
FROM THIS MARRIAGE. MARGRETTA WAS BORN IN 1914
IN COMMERCE. SHE IS NOW MRS. CHARLES MILLER, AND
RESIDES IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA. CLARENCE ALLEN, JR.
WAS BORN IN COMMERCE IN 1921. HE MARRIED MISS
FLORENCE BERRY, ALSO OF COMMERCE. THE COUPLE AND
THEIR TWO CHILDREN NOW LIVE IN DALLAS.

DR. ALLEN'S SECOND WIFE WAS MISS COYE BASS OF
PITTSBURGH, TEXAS. THEY WERE MARRIED ON AUGUST 2,
1934. MISS BASS WAS ASSISTANT DEAN OF WOMEN AT
EAST TEXAS STATE AT THE TIME OF MARRIAGE. NO
CHILDREN WERE BORN FROM THIS UNION. DURING WORLD
WAR 2, DR. ALLEN WAS EXAMINING PHYSICIAN FOR THIS
AREA AND WAS CITED BY THE PRESIDENT FOR THIS SERVICE.
IN 1941 HE WAS AWARDED A FELLOWSHIP IN THE AMERICAN
COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. HE WAS A FELLOW IN THE AMERICAN
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, MEMBER OF THE HUNT-RAINS-ROCKWALL
COUNTY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. HE WAS ALSO A MEMBER OF
THE AMERICAN RAILWAY ASSOCIATION.

DR. ALLEN WAS ACTIVE IN MASONIC WORK. HE WAS A
MEMBER OF THE MASONIC BODIES IN COMMERCE, THE

GREENVILLE DEMOLAY; THE SCOTTISH RITE BODIES OF
DALLAS; THE CONSISTORY AND MOSLAH TEMPLE OF
FORT WORTH.

DR. ALLEN DIED IN COMMERCE ON DECEMBER 27, 1959,
AT THE AGE OF 68. IT WAS SAID BY MANY THAT HIS
FUNERAL WAS THE LARGEST THAT HAD EVER BEEN HELD
UP UNTIL THAT TIME. HE WAS BURIED IN THE FAMILY
PLOT IN ROSEMOUND CEMETERY.

ARRANGED BY

JOE D. ALLEN
3338 WEST 5TH STREET
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

AUGUST, 1960

2957 1

